August 2, 2013

Dear District and County Superintendents and Charter School Administrators:

STATEWIDE 2013 STANDARDIZED TESTING AND REPORTING PROGRAM AND CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL EXIT EXAMINATION DATA CORRECTIONS

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the California Department of Education (CDE) is implementing a new process for 2013 demographic and program data corrections for the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program and the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE).

Starting with the 2012–13 accountability reporting cycle, all demographic and program data will be taken from the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System Operational Data Store (CALPADS ODS). As a result, all demographic and program data corrections should be made through CALPADS providing a cost savings to school districts and independently-testing charter schools. Data corrections to fields outside of demographic and program data should be made through Educational Testing Service (ETS).

This new process was first discussed and presented at the 2012 statewide Assessment and Accountability Informational Meetings with assessment and accountability coordinators and then through communications from the CDE's Analysis, Measurement, and Accountability Reporting Division. The attachment provides detailed information regarding the new data correction process.

I encourage you to work with your CALPADS LEA Administrator during the data correction process. If you have questions, please contact John Boivin, Administrator, STAR Program & Assessment Transition Office, by phone at 916-319-0575 or e-mail at jboivin@cde.ca.gov; Diane Hernandez, Administrator, High School and Physical Fitness Assessment Office, by phone at 916-319-0373 or e-mail at dhernand@cde.ca.gov; or Jenny Singh, Administrator, Academic Accountability Unit, by phone at 916-319-0437 or e-mail at jsingh@cde.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Deborah V.H. Sigman, Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction
District, School, and Innovation Branch

DS:jb
Attachment

cc: District Assessment Coordinators
    District Accountability Coordinators
    CALPADS LEA Administrators

Use of California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System for 2013 Accountability Reporting and Data Corrections

Starting with the 2012–13 accountability reporting cycle, all demographic and program data (e.g., race/ethnicity, students with disabilities (SWD) status, English learner (EL) status, participation in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), parent education level) will be extracted from the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System Operational Data Store (CALPADS ODS) for use in accountability reports. In prior years, these data were obtained from the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) and California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) student answer documents. As a result, the 2013 STAR and CAHSEE demographic and program data corrections should be made through CALPADS ODS. Additional information regarding the use of CALPADS data is provided in the API Information Guide on the API Web page at http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ap/documents/infoguide13.pdf.

The CDE will provide districts with a data file that displays the differences between student demographics and programs reported on the student answer document and CALPADS for both STAR and CAHSEE in early September. This will assist districts in identifying data corrections that may be needed in CALPADS. Additionally, corrections may be needed to other data (such as statewide student identifiers or fields specific to the testing administration process). Those corrections will need to be made through Educational Testing Service (ETS). ETS will be providing information on that data correction process in the near future.

The data corrections timeline will remain the same as in previous years. After the release of the accountability reports for all schools, districts may begin making data corrections through CALPADS through the end of business on **October 31, 2013**. The CDE will extract demographic data, enrollment and exit data, and special program data (e.g., EL, SWD, and socioeconomically disadvantaged students) from the CALPADS ODS on **November 1, 2013**. These data will be used to update 2012–13 continuous enrollment, student groups, and 2011–12 graduation rate data and to revise API, AYP, Program Improvement (PI), and STAR Web Reports.